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# SHAPING THE FUTURE: EVALUATING PROGRAMS AND POLICIES IN PUBLIC EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

# CONFERENCE CALL



18-19 June 2025  
Budapest, Hungary



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## SHAPING THE FUTURE: EVALUATING PROGRAMS AND POLICIES IN PUBLIC EDUCATION AND YOUTH DEVELOPMENT

18-19 JUNE 2025  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

HÉTFA Research Institute is glad to announce the launch of the call for abstracts for the conference “Shaping the Future: Evaluating Programs and Policies in Public Education and Youth Development” organized under the framework of the COST Programme - COST ACTION 20112 – PROFEEDBACK (Grant Holder Institute: HÉTFA Research Institute, Hungary). The conference will be held in Budapest, Hungary, on 18-19 June 2025.

*The call for papers is now open, and submissions on all relevant topics related to Evaluating Programs and Policies in Public Education and Youth Development are warmly invited.*

*Please feel free to share this invitation with anybody you believe might be interested.*

## ABOUT PROFEEDBACK

The Action PROFEEDBACK (Platform OF policy Evaluation community for improved EU policies and Better ACKnowledgement) aims to foster the networking of the policy evaluation community at EU-level, raise awareness on the importance of evaluation policy research and improve its impact on policy-making. The Platform, following a bottom-up and open approach, will gather researchers and professionals from various scientific fields and sectors to present and evaluate theories, topics, tools and methods of policy evaluation. Results of the Europe-wide assessment of good practices will provide direct and high-quality inputs for national and EU bodies responsible for policy evaluation.

Policy evaluation is a key tool in understanding, developing and modernising EU policies, thus there is growing demand for EU-wide and high quality evaluation services. The main challenge is that currently there is no bottom-up platform for European researchers and professionals working in policy evaluation. They have limited possibilities to discuss common problems, assess country specific practices and share their knowledge in a mutually beneficial and effective way.

## CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The primary objective of the conference is to bring together academics, professionals, policymakers, and policy evaluators from Europe and beyond. The aim is to create an environment that encourages the exchange of ideas and best practices related to the use of participatory methods in evaluating public policies and programmes.

Evaluation plays a crucial role in European education and youth policy, helping to ensure that initiatives meet the diverse needs of children and young people across the continent. By systematically assessing the outcomes and impacts of these policies, we can better understand which approaches are effective, which are not, and the reasons behind these results. This evidence-based approach helps refine policies and ensures that resources are used efficiently to promote educational equity, social inclusion, and youth empowerment. In a constantly changing world, ongoing evaluation also helps adapt policies to new challenges, making sure that Europe's young people are equipped with the skills and opportunities they need for future success.

## CONFERENCE TOPICS

The conference will focus on evaluations carried out in education or youth policy or programmes. The evaluation or impact assessment can be policy-, programme- or project-oriented.

Evaluation or impact assessment of youth or education policies and programmes include the following topics.

Evaluation or impact assessment of

- 1.Youth work and services supporting inclusion of young people,
- 2.Programs targeting NEET's
- 3.School to work transition, work or working conditions of youth
- 4.Social innovation in community development, community spaces for youth
- 5.Housing programs for youth and young families
- 6.Rural Youth
- 7.Youth mental health

Evaluation or impact assessment of

- 1.Social inclusion in education
- 2.Educational policy evaluation
- 3.Integration policies in education
- 4.Policies against early school leaving
- 5.Informal or extracurricular education programmes

The conference will be held in a hybrid format. Presenters should attend the conference in person, in Budapest.

The official language of the conference is English.

We expect to organize a two-day event with participants from all over Europe. There is no conference fee, presenters will be expected to arrange and pay for their own travel and accommodation, after the conference these expenses being reimbursed, following COST rules.

**IMPORTANT:** Travelling costs will be reimbursed to presenters within the limit of 350 Euros. Moreover, as per COST rules, daily allowance rate set for Budapest is 196 Euros.

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS

The call for papers is now open, and submissions on topics related to evaluation on youth and education. Please feel free to share this invitation with anybody you believe might be interested.

Two types of call are announced:

### 1. Call for full papers to be presented

Call for papers on completed research, evaluations or impact assessments on the above topics. The presenters for the conference will be selected based on extended abstracts (1½ - 2 pages) structured as it follows: overview, methods, presentation of participation, preliminary results, and concluding remarks. We encourage and highly welcome critical, multi and interdisciplinary abstracts. We also encourage comparative abstracts involving more countries. We also welcome early career researchers. Multiple-author abstracts can be submitted, but only one presenter participation is funded per paper.

Speakers are required to submit a full paper (5-10 pages) no later than 15 days after the event, and we will also provide this option for some of those not selected. Full papers will be published in a thematic booklet. The reimbursement of conference costs will depend on submitting a full paper based on the presentation prepared for the conference, no later than 15 days after the conference.

Members of the PROFEEDBACK Cost Action are encouraged to submit their abstracts.

### 2. Poster presentations

Call for papers on ongoing researches, evaluations or projects as well as developing Phd theses are also welcome as poster presentation.

Presenters of poster can also to submit a full paper (5-10 pages) no later than 15 days after the event, and we will also provide this option for some of those not selected. Full papers will be published in a thematic booklet.

We will be hosting this Research Fair throughout the entire duration of the conference. As part of the Research Fair, we encourage all participants to submit the most significant and outstanding research from their institutions. These contributions will be featured during the event on information sheets containing QR codes, which will be displayed throughout the conference venue.

## APPLICATION PROCESS

- You can submit your application [here](#).
- The deadline for submitting abstracts is **15th of January 2025**.
- Selected participants will be informed of the committee's decision by 31st March 2025.
- The reimbursement of conference costs will depend on submitting a full paper based on the presentation prepared for the conference, no later than 15 days after the conference.
- Registration for the conference will be required after your acceptance.

## REIMBURSEMENT RULES





Funded by COST, this event is free of charge for all presenters (one presenter per paper) and poster presenters. In person participants will pay for their own meals. Daily allowances and travel reimbursement is available as per [COST regulations](#), only for the presenters of the Conference.

Further documents about reimbursement: [Travel reimbursement rules](#), [Reimbursement guide](#), [Guide ho to claim reimbursement](#), [Car travel guidelines](#)

## PUBLICATIONS

All accepted abstracts / full papers will be published in Conference Proceedings Book.

## IMPORTANT DATES

-  Deadline for submission of abstracts: **15st January 2025**
-  Deadline for registration in e-COST system for the participation: **20th April 2025**
-  Deadline for registration in Google Form for the participation: **1st May 2025**
-  Deadline for submitting full papers: **10th July 2025** (15 days after the conference)

## SUPPORTERS

This conference is organized under the COST Action CA20112 Platform OF policy Evaluation community for improved EU policies and Better ACKnowledgement (PROFEEDBACK).



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the European Union

## CONTACT

*For more information, please contact: [profeedback@hetfa.hu](mailto:profeedback@hetfa.hu).*